

General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2002

LCO No. 5065

SB0041405065SR0

Offered by:

SEN. GENUARIO, 25th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 414

File No. 243

Cal. No. 177

"AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM."

1 After line 46, insert the following:

"Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2002) Any municipality may, by 2 3 resolution passed by its legislative body, and subject to the collective 4 bargaining provisions of chapter 166 of the general statutes, elect to 5 establish a retirement system for teachers employed in the public schools of the municipality. The effective date of participation shall be 7 at least ninety days subsequent to the receipt by the Teachers' 8 Retirement Commission of the certified copy of such resolution. The 9 Commission shall furnish Retirement to any municipality 10 contemplating acceptance of this part, at the expense of such municipality, an estimate of the probable cost to such municipality of 11 such acceptance as to any department or departments thereof. Upon 12 13 the request of any member of the Teachers' Retirement System eligible 14 to participate in such a municipal retirement system, the commission 15 shall refund his or her mandatory and voluntary contributions with SB 414 Amendment

credited interest. Any municipality establishing a retirement system pursuant to this section may contract with a Connecticut financial institution, including, but not limited to, a bank or insurance company for purposes of administration of the system.

"Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2002) In cooperation with the Department of Higher Education, The University of Connecticut and the Connecticut State University system shall develop and implement initiatives that address Connecticut's teacher shortage areas as identified by said department, and increase the enrollment and graduation of minority teacher and urban school teacher candidates. Initiatives shall include: (1) Expansion of admissions and graduation in shortage fields by at least ten per cent for the duration of identified shortages; (2) guaranteed admission programs that fully articulate pathways for community college students to enter without loss of credit into university teacher preparation programs in shortage areas; (3) strengthening mathematics and science instruction in elementary education programs, and (4) increase retention and graduation of minority and urban school teacher candidates. These proposals shall be implemented within existing budgetary resources. Not later than January 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, the Department of Higher Education shall report to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations concerning the use of higher education resources dedicated to addressing the state's teacher shortage, and progress in meeting the directives of this section."

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